

REMARKS

It is submitted that these claims, as originally presented, are patentably distinct over the prior art cited by the Examiner, and that these claims were in full compliance with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. §112. Changes to these claims, as presented herein, are not made for the purpose of patentability within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §101, §102, §103 or §112. Rather, these changes are made simply for clarification and to round out the scope of protection to which Applicants are entitled.

Non-elected claims 6-12, 16-19, 25-31, 37-43, 47-50 and 56-62 have been previously canceled. Claims 2, 3, 14, 15, 21, 22, 33, 34, 45, 46, 52 and 53 and amended claims 1, 4, 5, 13, 20, 23, 24, 32, 35, 36, 44, 51, 54 and 55 are in this application.

At paragraph 11 of the outstanding Final Office Action of January 29, 2003, the Examiner rejected claims 4, 5, 23, 24, 35, 36, 54 and 55 under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as containing subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention. Claims 4, 5, 23, 24, 35, 36, 54 and 55 have been amended herein to remove the material the Examiner stated was not found in the specification. Also, as discussed during a personal interview with the Examiner, the Examiner stated that some of these claims still contained similar 112, first paragraph issues. Applicants have amended claims 5, 24, 36 and 55 even further to overcome such 112, first paragraph issues. Applicants therefore, request that the first paragraph 112 rejection be withdrawn.

At paragraph 13 of the outstanding Final Office Action of January 29, 2003, the Examiner rejected claims 1-5, 13-15, 20-24, 32-36, 44-46 and 51-55 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over JP 10-65662 in view of Schneck et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,314,409 B2)

and Ryan et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,374,036 B1). Applicants therefore, respectfully traverse the rejection.

In explaining the above 103(a) rejection, the Examiner acknowledged that JP 10-65662 does not teach (a) “output means for supplying the information on copyright protection encrypted by the encryption means and the unencrypted information on copyright protection” or (b) “a watermark detecting means.” In an attempt to overcome this deficiency, the Examiner relied on Schneck and Ryan to teach such features.

The Examiner relied on column 7, lines 22-50, column 10, lines 47-65, column 13, lines 58-62 and column 23, lines 25-27 of Schneck to teach the same information encrypted and not encrypted feature of (a). Indeed, the Examiner argues that “It would [be] obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the claimed invention to modify Schneck include[ing] copyright protection information in both encrypted and unencrypted parts. Naturally, if parts of the body can be encrypted or left unencrypted, it would be equally uncomplicated to encrypt only parts of the copyright information.” Thus, the Examiner admits that Schneck merely teaches encrypting some of the copyright information. The claimed invention, however, recites that all of the copyright information is provided in both encrypted and unencrypted forms. Both of these forms are thereafter used to control predetermined processing. Thus, not only encryption, but provision of all copyright information, both encrypted and not, is claimed. Independent claim 1 therefore provides a redundancy for the copyright information. It is respectfully submitted that the portions of Schneck relied upon by the Examiner do not specifically disclose feature (a) with the above-mentioned feature of independent claim 1. Schneck does not disclose “output means for supplying, to said information-signal processing apparatus, said information on said

copyright protection as encrypted by said encryption means, same information on said copyright protection in an unencrypted form as received from said information-signal reading apparatus”.

The Examiner stated that Ryan discloses watermark-detecting means to teach feature (b). Independent claims 1, 13, 20, 32, 44 and 51 and their respective dependent claims have been amended herein by removing the watermark-detecting means. Furthermore, Ryan does not teach the above-mentioned added feature of independent claim 1. Ryan does not teach that all of the copyright information is provided in both encrypted and unencrypted forms. Indeed, Ryan is only concerned with a method that requires only one watermark for digital video recording (column 2, lines 30-35).

Therefore, independent claims 1, 13, 20, 32, 44 and 51 are believed to be distinguishable from JP 10-65662 in view of Schneck and Ryan.

Claims 2-4, 14, 15, 21-24, 33-36, 45, 46 and 52-55 are dependent from one of the independent claims, and due to such dependency, are believed to be distinguishable from JP 10-65662 in view of Schneck and Ryan for at least the reasons previously described.

Applicants therefore, respectfully request the rejection of claims 1-5, 13-15, 20-24, 32-36, 44-46 and 51-55 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) be withdrawn.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned **“Version with markings to show changes made.”**

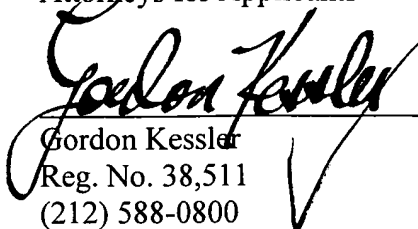
It is to be appreciated that the foregoing comments concerning the disclosures in the cited prior art represent the present opinions of the applicants’ undersigned attorney and, in the event, that the Examiner disagrees with any such opinions, it is requested that the Examiner indicate where in the reference or references, there is the bases for a contrary view.

Please charge any fees incurred by reason of this response to Deposit Account No.

50-0320.

Respectfully submitted,
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“VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE.”

IN THE CLAIMS

Non-elected claims 6-12, 16-19, 25-31, 37-43, 47-50 and 56-62 have been previously canceled. Please amend claims 1, 4, 5, 13, 20, 23, 24, 32, 35, 36, 44, 51, 54 and 55 to the following.

--1. (Three Times Amended) An information-signal playback system comprising an information-signal reading apparatus for reading out a main information signal and information on copyright protection from a recording medium containing said main information signal and information on at least copyright protection, and an information-signal processing apparatus for receiving said main information signal and said information on said copyright protection received from said information-signal reading apparatus, said information-signal reading apparatus comprising:

 readout means for reading out said information on said copyright protection from said recording medium;

 encryption means for encrypting said information on said copyright protection read out by said readout means; and

 output means for supplying, to said information-signal processing apparatus, said information on said copyright protection as encrypted by said encryption means, and said same information on said copyright protection in an unencrypted form as received from said information-signal reading apparatus, and said main information signal on which said copy control information is embodied; and

said information-signal processing apparatus comprising:

decryption means for decrypting encrypted information on said copyright protection received from said information-signal reading apparatus; and
control means for controlling predetermined processing carried out on said main information signal on the basis of said unencrypted information on said copyright protection received from said information-signal reading apparatus, said information on said copyright protection obtained as a result of decryption carried out by said decryption means, and said copy control information.--

--4. (Amended) An information-signal playback system according to claim 1 wherein:

[additional] information indicating never-copy or one-copy control implementation for controlling a copy operation has been added to said main information signal recorded on said recording medium;

said information-signal processing apparatus is provided with [an additional-] information indicating never-copy or one-copy detecting means for detecting said [additional] information indicating never-copy or one-copy control implementation added to said main information signal received from said information-signal reading apparatus; and

said control means controls predetermined processing carried out on said main information signal by taking said [additional] information indicating never-copy or one-copy control implementation detected by said information-signal detecting means into consideration.--

--5. (Amended) An information-signal playback system according to claim 4

wherein:

said [additional] information indicating never-copy or one-copy control implementation is information superposed on said main information signal [as digital-watermark information]; and

said [additional-] information indicating never-copy or one-copy control detecting means employed in said information-signal processing apparatus detects [said digital-watermark information] the superposed information on said main information signal.--

--13. (Three Times Amended) An information-signal reading apparatus for reading out a main information signal and information on copyright protection from a recording medium containing said main information signal and information on at least copyright protection and for supplying said signal and said information to an information-signal processing apparatus, said information-signal reading apparatus comprising:

readout means for reading out said information on said copyright protection from said recording medium;

encryption means for encrypting said information on said copyright protection read out by said readout means; and

output means for supplying, to said information-signal processing apparatus, said information on said copyright protection as encrypted by said encryption means, and said same information on said copyright protection in an unencrypted form as received from said information-signal reading apparatus, and said main information signal on which said copy control information is embodied.--

--20. (Three Times Amended) An information-signal processing apparatus for receiving a main information signal, encrypted information on copyright protection and unencrypted information on copyright protection, said information-signal processing apparatus comprising:

output means for supplying, to said information-signal processing apparatus, said information on said copyright protection as encrypted by encryption means, and said same information on said copyright protection in an unencrypted form as received from said information-signal reading apparatus, and said main information signal on which copy control information is embodied;

decryption means for decrypting said encrypted information on said copyright protection; and

control means for controlling predetermined processing carried out on said main information signal on the basis of said unencrypted information on said copyright protection, information on said copyright protection obtained as a result of decryption carried out by said decryption means and said copy control information.--

--23. (Amended) An information-signal processing apparatus according to claim 20 wherein:

[additional] information indicating never-copy or one-copy control implementation for controlling a copy operation has been added to said main information signal;

[an additional-] information indicating never-copy or one-copy detecting means is provided for detecting said [additional] information indicating never-copy or one-copy control implementation added to said main information signal; and

said control means controls an operation to output said main information signal by taking said [additional] information indicating never-copy or one-copy control implementation detected by said information-signal detecting means into consideration.--

--24. (Amended) An information-signal processing apparatus according to claim 23 wherein:

said [additional] information indicating never-copy or one-copy control implementation is information superposed on said main information signal [as digital-watermark information]; and

said [additional-] information indicating never-copy or one-copy detecting means detects [said digital-watermark information] the superposed information on said main information signal.--

--32. (Three Times Amended) An information-signal playback method for driving an information-signal reading apparatus to read out a main information signal and information on copyright protection from a recording medium containing said main information signal and information on at least copyright protection and supply said main information signal and said information on said copyright protection to an information-signal processing apparatus, said information-signal playback method comprising the steps of:

driving said information-signal reading apparatus to supply, to said information

signal processing apparatus, said information on copyright protection as encrypted, and said same information on said copyright protection in an unencrypted form as received from said information-signal reading apparatus, and said main information signal on which copy control information is embodied; and

driving said information-signal processing apparatus to decrypt said encrypted information on said copyright protection received from said information-signal reading apparatus, and control predetermined processing carried out on said main information signal on the basis of said unencrypted information on said copyright protection received from said information-signal reading apparatus, said information on said copyright protection obtained as a result of decryption and said copy control information.--

--35. (Amended) An information-signal playback method according to claim 32; wherein [additional] information indicating never-copy or one-copy control implementation for controlling a copy operation has been added to said main information signal recorded on said recording medium, said information-signal playback method further including the step of driving said information-signal processing apparatus to detect said [additional] information indicating never-copy or one-copy control implementation added to said main information signal and control predetermined processing carried out on said main information signal by taking said detected [additional] information indicating never-copy or one-copy control implementation into consideration.--

--36. (Amended) An information-signal playback method according to claim 35; wherein said [additional] information indicating never-copy or one-copy control implementation is information superposed on said main information signal [as digital-watermark information], said information-signal playback method further including the step of driving said information-signal processing apparatus to detect [said digital-watermark information] the superposed information on said main information signal.--

--44. (Three Times Amended) An information-signal reading method for reading out a main information signal and information on copyright protection from a recording medium containing said main information signal and information on at least copyright protection and for supplying said signal and said information to an information-signal processing apparatus, said information-signal reading method comprising the step of supplying, to said information-signal processing apparatus, said information on copyright protection as encrypted, and said same information on said copyright protection in an unencrypted form as received from said information-signal reading apparatus, and said main information signal on which copy control information is embodied.--

--51. (Three Times Amended) An information-signal processing method for receiving a main information signal, encrypted information on copyright protection and unencrypted information on copyright protection, said information-signal processing method comprising the steps of:

supplying, to said information-signal processing apparatus, said information on copyright protection as encrypted, and said same information on said copyright protection in an

unencrypted form as received from said information-signal reading apparatus, and said main information signal on which copy control information is embodied;

decrypting said encrypted information on copyright protection; and

controlling predetermined processing carried out on said main information signal on the basis of said unencrypted information on said copyright protection, decrypted information on said copyright protection and said copy control information.--

--54. (Amended) An information-signal processing method according to claim 51 wherein [additional] information indicating never-copy or one-copy control implementation for controlling a copy operation has been added to said main information signal, said information-signal processing method further including the steps of:

detecting said [additional] information indicating never-copy or one-copy control implementation added to said main information signal;

controlling predetermined processing carried out on said main information signal by taking said detected [additional] information indicating never-copy or one-copy control implementation into consideration.--

--55. (Amended) An information-signal processing method according to claim 54 wherein said [additional] information indicating never-copy or one-copy control implementation is information superposed on said main information signal [as digital-watermark information], said information-signal processing method further including the step of detecting [said digital-watermark information] the superposed information on said main information signal.--